

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masahiro ISHII

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: March 26, 2004

Docket No.: 119087

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of non-English language reference No. 1 is discussed in the present specification.
- 3. English-language Abstracts of non-English language reference Nos. 1 and 2 are attached hereto.



4. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publication has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 1 and 2.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Scott M. Schulte
Registration No. 44,325

JAO:SMS/mxm
Date: March 26, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION**
Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461

| Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83) | | US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 119087 | | APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Patent Application | |
|---|---|---|------------|---------------------------|--|--|-----------|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | APPLICANT Masahiro ISHII | | | | | |
| | | FILING DATE March 26, 2004 | | | | | |
| | | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | | CLASS | SUB CLASS |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | | CLASS | SUB CLASS |
| | 1 | JP A 9-274423 w/ Abst & Trans | 10/21/1997 | Japan | | | |
| | 2 | JP A 2001-166555 w/ Abst & Trans | 6/22/2001 | Japan | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | |
| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | | | | | | | |